TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 115 - 14 (3) TABLED ON MAR 5 2001

AURORA COLLEGE

Annual Report

1999 - 2000

New Opportunities for the New Northwest Territories

The challenge for any educational institution is to remain relevant and current for the population it serves. Over the past three decades, Aurora College has learned this lesson well. In the Northwest Territories, we have seen a change from a traditional economy, to a mineral-based economy, then to a public government-based economy. The North's education system was challenged through these changing times to prepare our people for new jobs and careers.

This flexibility remains a central value in Aurora College's corporate culture. Adaptation and change are characteristics that have served us well for 30 years. This past year has been no different. Once again the focus of the NWT's economy has shifted, as private industry, the information economy and resurgent mining and oil and gas become the engines of wealth creation.

In our ongoing efforts to address current educational needs and plan for the future, we have recently finalized our five-year corporate plan covering the period from 2001-2005. In the plan, we articulate our vision of a college responsive to change and working in close partnerships with key northern employers. As always, our goal is to assist Northerners in finding rewarding careers.

In doing so, we will also expand our range of programming by packaging our adult basic education services into access programs that lead directly to specific certificate and diploma programs, thus better preparing our students for the rigours of post-secondary education.

In the future, we will continue to serve our core constituency of adult learners while expanding our services to attract younger students entering college from high school. As the NWT's only public college, it is part of our mandate to serve the wide range of educational needs of all northerners. This is a commitment we will continue to meet in the years to come.

Aurora College is stepping boldly into the future, ready to do our part in helping Northerners find rewarding careers in the fields of their choice. In concert with our education partners in government, industry and aboriginal organizations, we will continue to play an important role in the future development of the NWT.

102-02329/

Letter of Transmittal

The Honorable Jake Ootes,
Minister of Education, Culture and Employment:

As always, it has been a busy year for Aurora College, and indeed for all the Northwest Territories. We live in exciting times, and the changes we have seen take place over the past few years are beginning to bear fruit in the form of greater opportunities for our people and more responsibility in providing the programs and services that affect our lives.

Aurora College has an important role to play in these times. In the past year, we have undertaken a major exercise to develop our new corporate plan, which will outline our goals for the coming five years. In this plan, we show how we will provide the necessary education services for the North, while also working to support specific goals of the Government of the NWT as identified in the document Towards a Better Tomorrow.

That document speaks to four broad priorities over the coming years, including self-reliant individuals, better governance, a balanced economy controlled in the North and sufficient resources to achieve these ends.

Aurora College has a role to play in all these areas. As the education and training institute for the NWT, our goal is to ensure people achieve self-reliance through education, better governance through proper training of staff at the community level, training to take control and take part in our changing economy, and skills which will allow us to better use our resources at hand.

We consider Aurora College to be a cornerstone of territorial development in that we can help make the achievement of this vision possible. By helping to build an educated and well-trained Northern work force, we will be able to move into the future with the confidence that our people are ready for the challenges to come.

In achieving these goals, we look forward to working with our partners in industry and aboriginal governments, as well as our colleagues in public government. Together, we can help the NWT and its people become more self-reliant and successful.

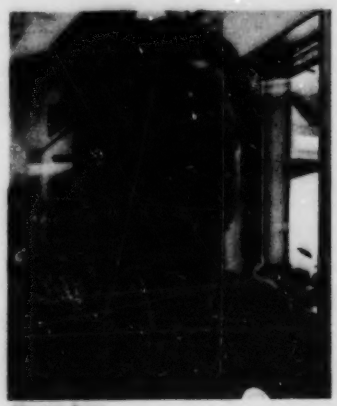
Sincerely,

E Jacobson

Earl Jacobson
Chairman
Aurora College Board of Governors

Earl Jacobson

President's Report



Maurice Evans

It has been a year full of significant developments for Aurora College, and I am pleased at the progress that has been made toward achieving a number of our goals and preparing for our changing role in the new NWT.

On a personal level, this was my first full year as President of the College, and I have come to know the institution well during that time. I have enjoyed working with the staff, and look forward to pursuing our goals as a college in the coming years.

In order to guide this development, we have recently completed our new five-year corporate plan. Entitled Investing in Northerners, the plan outlines the directions we will move toward in the coming years. In developing this plan, we have drawn heavily on public and staff consultation, focus groups and developmental workshops. We have also been guided by documents published by the Government of the NWT, including Towards a Better Tomorrow, the 14th Legislative Assembly's directional document, and the Department of Education, Culture and Employment's People: Our Focus for the Future – A Strategy to 2010. The feedback we received from the public and the aforementioned documents are reflected in the goals outlined in Investing in Northerners.

In general, college operations are running smoothly as we complete the adjustments ensuing from the creation of two territories. One area this has impacted is the number of students from Nunavut that attend our programs. Although the two colleges were created five years ago, a number of Nunavut students still opted to attend Aurora College for a variety of reasons. Since the creation of Nunavut, this number has dropped significantly in certificate and diploma programs. It is important to note that we still have Nunavut students who take trades programming at Thebacha Campus, and efforts to formalize an agreement on trades training for Nunavut students continue.

One of the highlights of the past year has been our continuing success in working with major growth industries to prepare Northerners for employment in mining and oil and gas jobs. Memoranda of Understanding have been signed with a number of industry groups, which connects Aurora College's training role to their human resource needs. It is through partnerships such as these that we will continue to meet the training needs of Northerners in the new economy.

The diamond-mining sector has been a major industrial partner for Aurora College for the past five years. In recent months, we have not only trained for a variety of trades positions directly on the mine site, we have also partnered with security agencies to provide security training. In partnership with the HRD High Diamond Council, we have delivered programs for the cutting and polishing opportunities in the secondary diamond industry. With the discovery of large natural gas reserves in the Liard Valley and renewed interest in oil and gas development in the Beaufort Delta, the college has geared up to begin training issues in that industry.

The government has also identified potential shortages in the fields of nursing and teaching. The NWT's reliance on extra-territorial expertise has made us particularly vulnerable to relocations and out-migration of staff. To that end, the GNWT has placed an emphasis on training Northerners to become teachers and nurses. This has led to increased promotion of the training programs we provide in these fields, as well as additional funding to expand the type of training we offer to include baccalaureate studies.

Enrollment Trends

We are pleased to see that enrollments are once again strong in all program areas. While Aurora and Thebacha Campuses showed very slight drops in full time equivalent (FTE) enrollments, Yellowknife Campus' numbers were up over last years' figures.

Credit program enrollments showed tremendous strength with a 27.8 percent increase over last year, and academic studies enrollments rose by 6.7 percent. Only career development programs – a small portion of College operations - showed a significant reduction, dropping 45.7 percent. Overall, full-time equivalent enrollments fell by 1.6 percent.

With a greater participation in academic studies and access programs, we expect our pool of certificate and diploma program students to remain strong in the coming years.

Funding

Like many provincial and territorial governments, the GNWT has faced, and is facing, a period of fiscal restraint.

Nonetheless, College funding in the coming fiscal year will not be cut. The GNWT is maintaining funding in such areas as nursing and mine training programs, and has identified additional funds for program development and delivery to serve the growing needs of the oil and gas industry.

Aurora College has pursued training partnerships with the private sector for the delivery of programs. This is particularly true for the mining sector, as well as oil and gas. Third party contracts now represent 15% percent of Aurora College revenues.

Partnerships

A new Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Aurora College and BHP Diamonds, which outlines areas of co-operation and potential training for employment at the mine site or in the secondary diamond industries. An MOU has been signed with Diavik Diamonds covering similar areas. As mentioned previously, we are also working with the HRD High Diamond Council of Antwerp, Belgium to address the training needs of the secondary diamond industry.

New partnerships with aboriginal governing bodies and industries involved in the Liard Valley oil and gas explorations are being vigorously pursued. The College has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Petroleum Industry Training Service (PITS) to provide training that will enable local people to benefit from the employment opportunities now emerging in the Liard Valley and the Beaufort Delta region.

Academic partnerships have also been a focus for us. For some years now, we have had a transfer agreement with the University of Lethbridge for our Natural Resources Technology Program that allows for a block transfer to their four-year Environmental Science Degree program. We are also working with the University of Regina in the hopes of fully articulating our Social Work diploma program with their Social Work degree program. Discussions are ongoing. In 1998, our two-year Teacher Education Diploma Program was expanded to three years, and our partnership with the University of Saskatchewan was solidified through an MOU. Delivery of the fourth year of studies in the NWT is currently under discussion. We are also undertaking major developments in the nursing education field. Since the launch of our successful Northern Nursing Diploma program six years ago, we have also taken over advanced nursing education, and are currently developing a nurse practitioner program with the Centre for Nursing Studies in Newfoundland. We are also working with the University of Victoria in the ongoing development of a Northern Nursing baccalaureate program.

M121

IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING PAGES

THE PAGES WHICH FOLLOW HAVE BEEN FILMED TWICE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE BEST REPRODUCTIVE QUALITY

USERS SHOULD CONSULT ALL THE PAGES REPRODUCED ON THE FICHE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A COMPLETE READING OF THE TEXT.

REMARQUE IMPORTANTE CONCERNANT LES PAGES QUI SUIVENT

LES PAGES SUIVANTES ONT ÉTÉ REPRODUITES EN DOUBLE AFIN D'AMÉLIORER LA QUALITÉ DE REPRODUCTION

LES UTILISATEURS DOIVENT CONSULTER TOUTES LES PAGES REPRODUITES SUR LA FICHE AFIN D'OBTENIR LA LECTURE DU TEXTE INTÉGRAL

micromedia
a division of IHS Canada

20 Victoria Street
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2N8
Tel.: (416) 362-5211
Toll Free: 1-800-387-2689
Fax: (416) 362-6161
Email: info@micromedia.on.ca

Student Enrollment by Location:

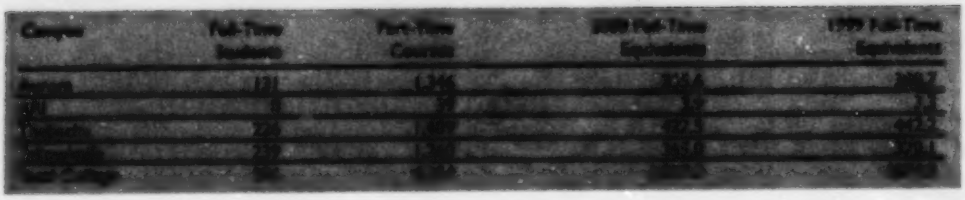
Campus	Full-Time Students	Part-Time Courses	2000 Full-Time Equivalents	1999 Full-Time Equivalents
Aurora	131	1,346	265.6	308.7
ARI	0	39	3.9	3.3
Thebacha	226	1,609	422.5	442.2
Yellowknife	239	1,260	365.0	320.1
Total College	596	4,254	1,057.0	1074.3

Full-Time Equivalent Students by Location by Program Division:

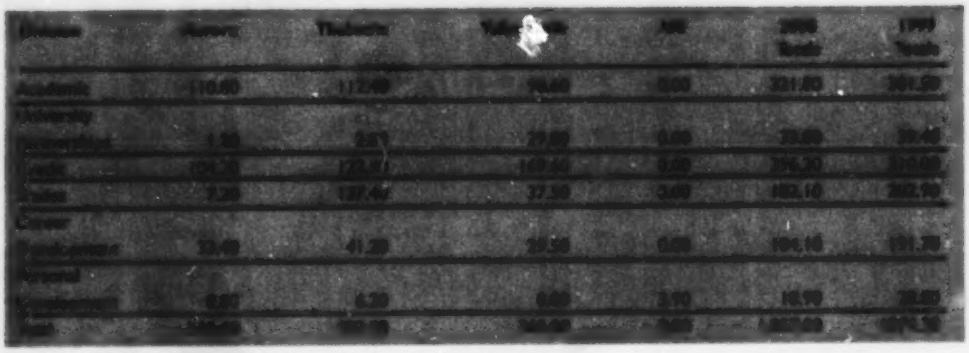
Division	Aurora	Thebacha	Yellowknife	ARI	2000 Totals	1999 Totals
Academic	110.80	112.40	98.60	0.00	321.80	301.50
University Partnerships	1.20	2.80	29.80	0.00	33.80	39.40
Credit	104.20	122.50	169.60	0.00	396.30	310.00
Trades	7.20	137.40	37.50	0.00	182.10	202.90
Career Development	33.40	41.20	29.50	0.00	104.10	191.70
Personal Development	8.80	6.20	0.00	3.90	18.90	28.80
Total	265.60	422.50	365.00	3.90	1,057.00	1074.30

All enrollment numbers are converted to "Full Time Equivalent Students" (FTE) to allow for the evaluation of enrollments in a consistent manner. FTE calculations are done in a manner where one full time student equals one FTE. Part-time students are converted to FTE using a ratio of 10 courses to one FTE for all programs except apprentice programs where the ratio is 4 courses in a program over the academic year.

Student Enrollment by Location:



Full-Time Equivalent Students by Location by Program Division:



All enrollment numbers are converted to "Full Time Equivalent Students" (FTE) to allow for the evaluation of enrollments in a consistent manner. FTE calculations are done in a manner where one full time student equals one FTE. Part-time students are converted to FTE using a ratio of 10 courses to one FTE for all programs except apprentice programs where the ratio is 4 courses in a program over the academic year.

Board of Governors

This past year has seen a major change in the membership of the Aurora College Board of Governors. Some long-time board members have completed their two terms, while newer members have arrived to bring fresh ideas to the organization.

Although membership has changed, our commitment remains the same: we are developing a distinct northern college with a territorial vision. The College Board of Governors has been unique over the years in terms of the dedication of its members and their commitment to the organization. Our board members attend weekend meetings, make speeches at graduations, attend the openings of new facilities, and take part as board members in a variety of functions within their constituencies. Few other Northern boards ask so much of their members, and few members so readily answer the call.

This year has been particularly busy when you factor in the development of our new corporate plan. Our Board has had an active role in the development of this document, ensuring that it reflects the interests of the people and regions of the NWT.

To aid in this development, the board has held a number of workshops in which they gathered to discuss the general direction in which the college needs to move in the coming five years. In addition, the document underwent several public consultations, focus groups, internal reviews and revisions.

This document will provide the framework for our next five years, and focuses on seven strategic directions:

- Strive for excellence
- Increase enrollment, retention and student achievement
- Revise our Governance Structure and Organizational Design
- Work with Emerging Sectors to Maximize Employment Opportunities
- Increase funds for Education and Research
- Explore partnerships in the delivery of Adult Basic Education
- Prepare to be a University College

These are the areas we have identified as requiring action in the next planning period. We believe the result of these directions will be a vibrant and responsive northern learning institution.

Board members have also been busy over the past year in a number of other areas. As a result of the turnover in membership, a number of developmental workshops have been held to bring new members up to speed on recent events, and on where the college hopes to move in the future. Not only are there new members from Yellowknife and the North Slave region, but the transition to a new Chairman is also complete. The Board continues to be fortunate in finding interested and energetic people to replace departing members.

Additionally, Board members have been actively involved in many aspects of college life. This year, we co-hosted the Association of Canadian Community Colleges conference in Whitehorse. This prestigious event was also co-hosted by Nunavut Arctic College, and was hosted by Yukon College at their Whitehorse facilities. Our role was to provide cultural aspects for the conference, including aboriginal performers, entertainers and country foods. Our Cooking program Senior Instructor, Brad LeBoldus, prepared much of the food for the Opening Banquet, which received extremely high praise from attendees. In addition, our staff assisted with conference organization and set up.

A number of board members attended the conference to take part in special workshops for college boards or seminars on educational leadership. All in all, the conference was a major success, and Aurora College feels proud to have been part of it.

Board members also attended graduation ceremonies for our students at each campus. New Board Chairperson Earl Jacobson attended the ceremonies in Fort Smith while Tom Hoefer, Chair of the Board's Finance Committee, attended Yellowknife's graduation. Faith Beaulieu, the board's student representative, attended the ceremonies in Inuvik. These are important links between the board's direction-setting role and the ultimate results of the college's work, which is to help students succeed in the program of their choice.

In the coming five years, the Board will look forward to steering the NWT college system through an exciting period of change. While our corporate plan will guide this process, the college will remain flexible and ready to respond to new challenges.

Board of Governors from left to right:
Chairman Earl Jacobson, Ruby Okheena, Maurice Evans, Betty Chinna, George Mackenizie, Tom Hoefer, Julian Tomlinson

Partnerships

In today's highly networked world, partnerships are the lifeblood of any successful organization. That is why Aurora College fosters an extensive network of partnerships including private industry and business, government departments, aboriginal governing bodies and other post-secondary education institutions.

This year, we continue to focus on forging closer partnerships with the mining and oil and gas industries. These resource sectors are a major force in the NWT economy, and Northerners need training to gain employment in these sectors. Thus, we have forged partnership agreements with BHP Diamonds and Diavik Diamonds Ltd., and have recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the Petroleum Industry Training Service (PITS). This MOU describes how the college and PITS will co-operate in developing and delivering relevant training programs to Northerners.

We are also experiencing great success with the delivery of the Early Childhood Education program, which is being delivered in partnership with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and Yukon College. This program – delivered through both modular format and distance education – is helping to build expertise for the NWT's day care workers.

University partnerships and transfer agreements continued to be strengthened this year. We are furthering our efforts to articulate our programs with related university programs. We have recently completed an articulation agreement with the University of Regina for our Social Work program, which will see our graduates receive full credit for the first two years of a Bachelor of Social Work degree. This agreement also means our Social Work graduates will not only receive their Aurora College diploma, but also the Certificate in Social Work from the University of Regina.

In both training and education partnerships, our goal is to provide our students with quality education and job skills, and with further education choices.

Programming Achievements

Although Aurora College offers ongoing delivery of programs providing vital education and training, we also actively develop new programs to meet emerging employment needs.

As the NWT's economy becomes more diverse, new training and educational challenges must be addressed. New programs are created to address a specific short-term training need, or to meet the training requirements of a new industry or business starting in the North.

This year, we undertook a number of new initiatives to meet new training needs. One of these was to retool our Electronic Engineering Program into our Computer Technician Program. This program will produce employable graduates ready to work in the computer technician field, one of the fastest growing job sectors in the modern economy. Delivery of this program commenced at the Yellowknife Campus in the 2000-2001 academic year.

In Inuvik, staff members at Aurora Campus will have our Community Development Program up and running for its first delivery in the coming academic year. This program will teach students to build skills at the community level and to create healthier, more economically viable communities. This program is being delivered at all campuses on a rotating course-by-course basis. This innovative delivery style makes it possible for NWT residents to access the training from a variety of locations, including through distance delivery methods.

The Social Work diploma program is once again being delivered at Thebacha Campus. After a successful delivery in Inuvik, the program returned to Fort Smith, where it generated substantial interest. A full class is preparing to start in the program in the fall of 2000.

The college has recently signed a memoranda of understanding with the Petroleum Industry Training Service (PITS), which will see us working with that industry to provide a variety of training. This arrangement is similar to MOUs signed with diamond mining companies BHP and Diavik.

Thebacha Campus staff members are continuing their efforts to bring training opportunities to communities throughout the region they serve. Last year, the launch of our portable welding unit – a trailer containing the equipment and materials needed to deliver a welding program – resulted in several successful programs being delivered in Rae and various Deh Cho communities. The mobile welding unit has drawn great praise from students and community leaders.

Aurora College continues to work closely with government and industry to ensure new training needs are being met, and new employment opportunities are open to northern residents. This helps to ensure the economic benefits of northern development result in a better life and more opportunities for Northerners.

Programs 1999-2000

Adult Basic Education/Access
- Adult Basic Education
- Pre-technology
- Mine & Industry Trades

Access Programs
- Health Access
- Nursing Access
- Legal Access
- Teacher Education Access
- Social Work Access
- Management Studies

Certificate or Diploma
- Northern Nursing
- Natural Resources Technology
- Criminal Justice
- Jewellery and Metalwork
- Management Studies
- Teacher Education
- Recreation Leaders
- Early Childhood Education
- Social Work
- Office Administration
- Community Development
- Electronic Engineering Technology
- Advanced Nursing Skills Education Program
- Furrier
- Certificate in Adult Education
- Long Term Care Aide

Trades or Technology
- Community Airport Maintenance
- Community Airport Management
- Observer/Communicator
- Carpentry
- Electrical
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Heavy Duty Mechanic
- Housing Maintainer
- Plumbing
- Welding
- Cooking
- Women in Trades

ARI

The Aurora Research Institute (ARI) is an integral part of Aurora College helping to build the Northern knowledge base for all our programs. As the research division of the College, ARI develops and enhances research programs and technological innovations throughout the Northwest Territories. We provide services and programs in research and incorporate Indigenous knowledge into research and education programs. Many projects and programs are collaborative efforts with groups and organizations in the NWT that enhance northern capacity in research and technology development. Our mission is to promote the further development of communities within the NWT by advancing northern knowledge, by creating partnerships and by providing leadership and programs which promote scientific research to meet community needs.

The Aurora Research Institute provides administrative and logistical support to both resident and non-resident researchers. Services are provided through facilities strategically located throughout the NWT.

The **Inuvik Research Centre** accommodates and facilitates research activities in the Mackenzie Delta, Beaufort Sea and northern Yukon Territory. Established 30 years ago to assist scientists conducting research in Canada's northern regions, the Inuvik Research Centre houses the Head Office, as well as a research library and large laboratory facilities.

The **South Slave Research Centre** (SSRC) in Fort Smith conducts and facilitates research programs in the southern regions of the Northwest Territories. SSRC was established in 1991 as a community based initiative to meet research needs of the region. It is located on the Thebacha Campus of Aurora College in Fort Smith.

The **Industrial Research Assistance Program** (IRAP) operates throughout the NWT through its office based at the Yellowknife Campus. ARI has served as a network member of the National Research Council's IRAP program for a number of years. This program assists industry with the research and development of new technologies with a view to stimulating productivity, profitability and international competitiveness.

Forty nine projects were approved for financial assistance under IRAP in 1999/00. The Industrial Technology Advisor continues to work on behalf of ARI to identify suitable partner institutes and to assist with the placement of science and engineering students with engineering firms in the NWT. Recent initiatives of this program include:

- Assistance to a company for the development and manufacture of fiberglass poles.
- Housing Construction project working– with 3000/Energy Wall

One of the major initiatives of ARI this year was to develop a more comprehensive Internet site. Many of the contract initiatives at SSRC over the past year have served to improve this site and provide many of ARI's materials and information items online. The new address for the ARI site is www.nwtresearch.com

ARI continues to address the research needs and priorities of Northerners through consultation with community organizations, aboriginal organizations, government departments, and universities. A comprehensive revision of the Northern Research Agenda was begun this year. This agenda will outline current research areas deemed most relevant by Northerners and provide direction for future research to be carried out in the NWT It will also examine effective methods of communication of research results in the NWT.

ARI staff continue to operate in a more entrepreneurial fashion. Many of the programs run on a partial cost recovery basis. This approach has led to innovative projects with a variety of partners in various regions of the Northwest Territories as well as outside the NWT.

Contract Services

The following are a few of the contracts ARI have been involved with in the past year:

- Poster and web site summarizing current state of knowledge of climate change issues in the NWT and northern Yukon.

- **Mackenzie Valley Cumulative Impact Monitoring database.** A comprehensive database of all monitoring research in environmental, social, economic and community research initiatives was developed for activities in the Mackenzie Valley. The project was done in collaboration with the Gwich'in and Sahtu Land claimant groups and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. The database provides user groups with information on what has been researched, what is being researched and also areas that require research. This provides a common platform for the discussion and establishment of research priorities among the organizations responsible for the implementation of the claim.

- **Arctic Millennium Exhibition,** in the South Slave Research Centre participated in a 7000km Odyssey across the Canadian Arctic to celebrate the turn of the century. They designed and maintained a dynamic web site for this project, www.frozentoes.com.

- **Western Arctic Handbook**, this project is nearing completion for the development of a comprehensive handbook documenting the natural and cultural history of the Western Arctic. Various Departments and organizations have provided funding for the project.

- **Summer Youth Employment Programs.** As part of the educational focus of the Research Centres, students pursuing studies in science or related disciplines are provided summer employment opportunities through our facilities. This provides students with an opportunity to gain research and related experience in the North. ARI has had increasing involvement in campus programs and activities. Some examples of joint initiatives with college divisions include:

IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING PAGES

THE PAGES WHICH FOLLOW HAVE BEEN FILMED TWICE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE BEST REPRODUCTIVE QUALITY

USERS SHOULD CONSULT ALL THE PAGES REPRODUCED ON THE FICHE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A COMPLETE READING OF THE TEXT.

REMARQUE IMPORTANTE CONCERNANT LES PAGES QUI SUIVENT

LES PAGES SUIVANTES ONT ÉTÉ REPRODUITES EN DOUBLE AFIN D'AMÉLIORER LA QUALITÉ DE REPRODUCTION

LES UTILISATEURS DOIVENT CONSULTER TOUTES LES PAGES REPRODUITES SUR LA FICHE AFIN D'OBTENIR LA LECTURE DU TEXTE INTÉGRAL

micromedia
a division of IHS Canada

20 Victoria Street
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2N8
Tel.: (416) 362-5211
Toll Free: 1-800-387-2689
Fax: (416) 362-6161
Email: info@micromedia.on.ca

- **Natural Resource & Technology Program** (NRTP). The Inuvik Research Centre continued to play an important role in the delivery of NRTP by providing classroom, office, and laboratory facilities and field equipment. The staff of ARI also served as instructors for some of the classes.

From community partners to international agencies, ARI works with a variety of organizations to ensure Northerners have access to the best science information and technology as well as training in various research techniques. ARI also continues to support researchers and students through funds provided by our Research Assistant Support Program, Research Fellowship Program and the James M. Harrison Bursary.

Research Services

- **Cosmic Ray Monitoring Project.** The Inuvik Research Centre is home to a cosmic ray monitor. It is one of three neutron monitors operating in Canada, and one of many around the world that detect cosmic rays from outer space. The Inuvik Research Centre has been contracted by Bartol Research Institute (University of Delaware) to maintain the operation of the monitor. Data collected by the cosmic ray monitor provides information on the strength of solar and galactic cosmic rays and disturbances in the solar terrestrial environment. This year, steps were taken to establish a neutron monitor station in Fort Smith. This was a second contract with Bartol Research Institute to have the South Slave Research Centre and Thebacha Campus staff coordinate the construction of the station's foundation.

- **Data Collection**. The Inuvik Research Centre provide assistance in various ongoing studies by monitoring data on such subjects as snow surveys, permafrost, and tree litter. ARI is responsible for licensing and coordinating research in accordance with the *NWT Scientist Act*. From July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000 eighty licences were issued.

Research Licenses Issued by Field of Study	%
Contaminants	1%
Health	1%
Traditional Knowledge	3%
Social Science	14%
Physical Science	19%
Geology	9%
Biology	33%
Others	20%

Research Licenses Issued by Regions	%
More than one region	2%
South Slave	10%
North Slave	18%
Deh Cho	8%
Sahtu	6%
Inuvik Region	38%
Others	18%

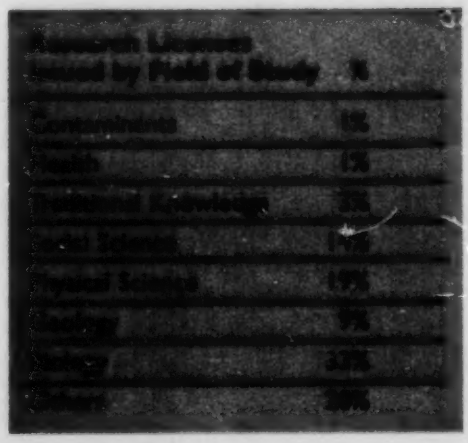
• **Natural Resource & Technology Program** (NRTP). The Inuvik Research Centre continued to play an important role in the delivery of NRTP by providing classroom, office, and laboratory facilities and field equipment. The staff of ARI also served as instructors for some of the classes.

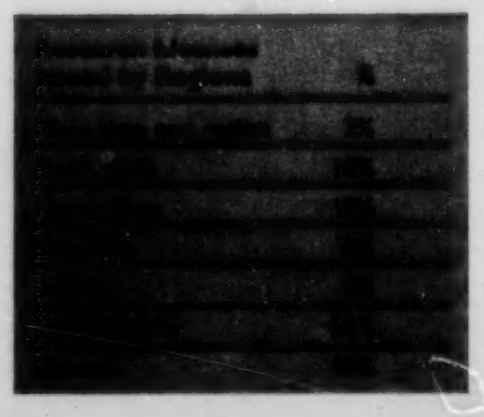
From community partners to international agencies, ARI works with a variety of organizations to ensure Northerners have access to the best science information and technology as well as training in various research techniques. ARI also continues to support researchers and students through funds provided by our Research Assistant Support Program, Research Fellowship Program and the James M. Harrison Bursary.

Research Services

• **Cosmic Ray Monitoring Project.** The Inuvik Research Centre is home to a cosmic ray monitor. It is one of three neutron monitors operating in Canada, and one of many around the world that detect cosmic rays from outer space. The Inuvik Research Centre has been contracted by Bartol Research Institute (University of Delaware) to maintain the operation of the monitor. Data collected by the cosmic ray monitor provides information on the strength of solar and galactic cosmic rays and disturbances in the solar terrestrial environment. This year, steps were taken to establish a neutron monitor station in Fort Smith. This was a second contract with Bartol Research Institute to have the South Slave Research Centre and Thebacha Campus staff coordinate the construction of the station's foundation.

• **Data Collection**. The Inuvik Research Centre provide assistance in various ongoing studies by monitoring data on such subjects as snow surveys, permafrost, and tree litter. ARI is responsible for licensing and coordinating research in accordance with the *NWT Scientist Act*. From July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000 eighty licences were issued.





Report to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment
on the accounts and financial statements of the

AURORA COLLEGE

for the year ended June 30, 2000.

AURORA COLLEGE

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of Aurora College ("the College") and all information in this annual report are the responsibility of the College's management and have been reviewed by the Board of Governors. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Management's best estimates and judgements have been used in the preparation of these statements, where appropriate. Financial information presented elsewhere in the annual report is consistent with that contained in the financial statements.

In discharging its responsibilities for financial reporting, management maintains and relies on financial and management control systems and practices which are designed to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded, and proper records are maintained. These controls and practices ensure the orderly conduct of business, the accuracy of accounting records, the timely preparation of reliable financial information and the adherence to the College's policies and statutory requirements.

The Board of Governors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control and exercises this responsibility through the Finance Committee of the Board, which is composed of a majority of Members who are not employees of the College. The Finance Committee meets regularly with management and the external auditors have full and free access to the Finance Committee.

The College's external auditor, the Auditor General of Canada, audits the financial statements and issues his report thereon to the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.

Maurice Evans
President

Edith Weber
Bursar/Chief Financial Officer

Fort Smith, Canada
September 1, 2000

GENERAL CANADA

VÉRIFICATEUR GÉNÉRAL DU CANADA

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment
Government of the Northwest Territories

I have audited the balance sheet of Aurora College as at June 30, 2000 and the statements of operations and equity and cash flow for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the College's management. My responsibility is to express an audit opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the College as at June 30, 2000 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the *Financial Administration Act*, I report that, in my opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Further, in my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the College and the financial statements are in agreement therewith and the transactions of the College that have come to my notice during my audit of the financial statements have, in all significant respects, been in accordance with Part IX of the *Financial Administration Act* and regulations, the *Public Colleges Act* and regulations and by-laws of the College.

Sheila Fraser

Sheila Fraser, FCA
Deputy Auditor General
for the Auditor General of Canada

Ottawa, Canada
September 1, 2000

AURORA COLLEGE

BALANCE SHEET
as at June 30, 2000
(thousands of dollars)

	2000	1999
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	$3,569	$ 661
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	1,177	2,387
Prepaid expenses	22	42
	4,768	3,090
Capital assets (Note 4)	2,574	2,816
	$7,342	$5,906
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$1,421	$1,112
Employee leave liability	819	828
Due to the Government of the Northwest Territories	880	446
Deferred revenue	222	122
Deferred capital contributions	25	77
Professional development fund (Note 5)	294	168
Employee termination benefits	949	1,009
	4,610	3,762
Equity (Note 6)	2,732	2,144
	$7,342	$5,906

Commitments (Note 9)

Approved by the Board

Earl Jacobson
Chairperson of the Board

Tom Hoefer
Chairperson of the Finance Committee

Approved by the Management

Maurice Evans
President

Edith Weber
Bursar/Chief Financial Officer

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AURORA COLLEGE

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND EQUITY
for the year ended June 30, 2000
(thousands of dollars)

	2000	1999
Revenue		
Government contributions (Note 7)	$20,710	$20,248
Project income	4,023	4,408
Tuition fees	1,337	1,099
Room and board	646	576
Investment income	276	110
Other	893	735
Total Revenue	27,885	27,176
Expenses		
Salaries, wages and benefits	15,086	14,469
Contract services	6,062	5,623
Materials and supplies	2,130	1,845
Utilities	1,171	1,723
Fees and payments	978	1,164
Travel and accommodation	970	915
Communication, postage and freight	530	509
Amortization	370	446
Total Expenses	27,297	26,694
Net Surplus	588	482
Equity at beginning of year	2,144	1,662
Equity at end of year	$ 2,732	$ 2,144

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AURORA COLLEGE

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended June 30, 2000
(thousands of dollars)

	2000	1999
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net surplus	$ 588	$ 482
Non-cash transactions:		
Gain on disposal of mobile equipment	(18)	(46)
Amortization of deferred capital contribution	(52)	(51)
Amortization	370	446
	888	831
Changes for non-cash working capital		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	1,210	(667)
Decrease in prepaid expenses	20	117
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	309	(272)
Increase (decrease) in employee leave liability	(9)	162
Increase (decrease) in amount due to the Government of the Northwest Territories	434	(493)
Increase (decrease) in employee termination benefits	(60)	162
Increase (decrease) in professional development fund	126	(21)
Increase in deferred revenue	100	115
	2,130	(897)
Cash generated from (applied to) operating activities	3,018	(66)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of equipment	18	69
Acquisition of capital assets	(128)	(47)
Cash generated from (applied to) investing activities	(110)	22
Net increase (decrease) in cash	2,908	(44)
Cash at beginning of year	661	705
Cash at end of year	$ 3,569	$ 661

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

AURORA COLLEGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
as at June 30, 2000

1. Authority and Mandate

The Aurora College operates under the authority of the *Public Colleges Act*. The College is a Schedule B Public Agency as listed in the *Financial Administration Act* of the Northwest Territories.

Under a contribution agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories (the Government) dated January 25, 1995, the College receives contributions for its operations and capital requirements for the administration and delivery of its adult and post-secondary education programs. Under the terms of this agreement, the College is allowed to retain all surpluses and is responsible for all deficits.

Aurora College is a multi-campus institution designed to provide a wide variety of educational services to adult learners of the Northwest Territories. The programs are directed specifically to the northern environment and the needs of individual northerners, the workforce and northern communities. To accomplish this, courses and services are delivered at campuses and communities in the Northwest Territories. Through the work of the Aurora Research Institute, the College is also responsible for the facilitation and preparation of research activity in the region.

The College is exempt under Section 149 of the *Income Tax Act* from payment of income taxes.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A summary of significant accounting policies follows:

a) Capital assets

Capital assets transferred to the College from the former Arctic College and the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories, effective January 1, 1995, were recorded at the fair market value at that date, determined as the original cost less accumulated amortization, or estimated market value. Subsequent acquisitions are recorded at cost. Capital assets are amortized over their estimated remaining lives on a straight-line basis at the following annual rates:

Furniture and equipment	20 - 40%
Mobile equipment	10 - 33.33%
Leasehold improvements	10 - 33.33%
Building additions and renovations	5%

b) Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue represents payments received under contract for which the development and delivery of programs has not been completed. These amounts are recorded in income as obligations are fulfilled.

c) Employee termination benefits

On termination of employment, employees are entitled to benefits provided for under their terms of employment. The liability for these benefits is recorded as the benefits accrue to the employees.

d) Government contributions and deferred capital contributions

Contributions from the Government are the amounts set out in the Government's Main Estimates, as adjusted by supplementary appropriations, and represent the majority of the funding for the College to cover its expenses. Contributions for operating expenses are recognized on the statement of operations and equity in the College's fiscal year for which it is approved. Contributions for depreciable capital assets are deferred and amortized on the same basis and in the same periods as the underlying capital assets.

e) Project income

The College provides education and research services to outside parties through contractual arrangements. Project income is deferred and recognized in the year in which the related expenses are recognized.

f) Investment income

The College earns investment income through an agreement whereby the Government invests the College's available cash balances. The nature of this agreement is such that the College is not exposed to any credit risk or potential for loss of capital. Investment income is recorded in the year it is earned.

g) Contract services

Contract services are acquired by the College through contractual arrangements. They include printing services, advertising, building and equipment repairs, software development, curriculum development, food service contracts, janitorial contracts, instruction contracts, leases and rental agreements. These amounts are charged as an expense in the year the service is used.

h) Pension Plan

Employees of the College participate in the Public Service Superannuation Plan administered by Canada. The employees and the College contribute equally to the cost of the plan. The College's contributions are charged as an expenditure on a current year basis, and represent the total pension obligations of the College. The College is not required under present legislation to make contributions with respect to actuarial deficiencies of the Public Service Superannuation Account.

3. Accounts receivable

	2000 (thousands of dollars)			1999
	Accounts Receivable	Allowance	Net	Net
Government contributions	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,362
Project income				
-Government	383	4	379	455
-Other	783	117	666	455
Students	346	225	121	103
Advance	11	-	11	12
	$1,523	$ 346	$1,177	$2,387

All receivables are currently due and the fair value of these receivables approximates their carrying value.

4. Capital Assets

	2000 (thousands of dollars)			1999
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Furniture and equipment	$ 594	$ 469	$ 125	$ 101
Mobile equipment	1,140	826	314	389
Leasehold improvements	700	307	393	484
Building additions and renovations	1,991	249	1,742	1,842
	$4,425	$1,851	$2,574	$2,816

5. Professional Development Fund

The amount represents funds for professional development to be provided to instructors under collective bargaining agreements. Under these agreements, the College is required annually to make available a specific amount of funding, against which approved professional development expenses are charged. The balance represents the cumulative unspent amount available for professional development.

6. Equity

The equity balance includes the book value of capital assets transferred from the former Arctic College and Science Institute of the Northwest Territories and capital assets contributed by the Government as of January 1, 1995 and the results of operations since that date. The following appropriations have been made from equity:

(thousands of dollars)

Appropriated equity	Balance, opening	Net surplus	Appropriated	Used	Balance, ending
a) Program delivery	$ 117	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 117
b) Research & development	54	-	25	(13)	66
c) HEO replacement & maintenance	127	-	-	-	127
d) Donations	10	-	12	(16)	6
Unappropriated equity:	1,836	588	(37)	29	2,416
Total equity	$2,144	$ 588	$ -	$ -	$2,732

a) Appropriated for Program Delivery

This appropriation was established in 1997-98 to be applied to program costs contemplated in the annual Programs and Services Proposal prepared by the College, for which funding has not been approved by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment. Allocations to and from this appropriation must be approved by the Board of Governors, upon review of a submission from management.

b) Appropriated for Research and Development

This appropriation was established in 1995-96 to help fund future research and development under both the Research Associate and the Research Fellowship programs at the Aurora Research Institute (ARI). All unencumbered administration revenue that is earned through the fulfillment of third party contracts in any given year at the ARI is transferred to this account.

c) Appropriated for HEO Replacement and Maintenance

The appropriation was established in 1996-97 to help fund ongoing replacement and maintenance of the heavy equipment used in delivering the Heavy Equipment Operator program (HEO). The Board of Governors must approve the replenishment and use of the reserve, which is funded by equipment rental fees charged to third party contractors when delivering HEO courses.

d) Appropriated for Donations

From time to time, the College receives donations from individuals and corporations with conditions attached to them. In order to ensure that the wishes of the contributors are carried out, the donations are appropriated from equity.

7. Government Contributions

	2000	1999
	(thousands of dollars)	
Operating contributions	$20,662	$20,197
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	52	51
Refund of capital contributions	(4)	-
	$20,710	$20,248

8. Related Parties

The College is related in terms of common ownership to all Government created departments, agencies and Crown corporations. The College enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business at normal trade terms.

Income

The College received project income of $2,613,000 (1999 - $2,822,000) for courses delivered on behalf of the Government.

Expenses

Under terms of administrative agreements, the Government provides certain support services to the College. The College reimbursed the Government $931,000 (1999 - $1,290,000) for facility operating and utility costs, employee benefits and other expenses.

Services Provided Without Charge

Additional services provided by the Government without charge to the College include payroll processing, insurance and risk management, legal counsel, construction management, records storage, computer operations, asset disposal, project management and translation services. These services would have cost the College an estimated $459,000 (1999 - $603,000). The College also receives from the Government, without any rental charges, the use of facilities for two of its campuses, certain student housing units and community learning centres. The cost of these services provided without charge are not included in these financial statements.

9. Commitments

In addition to facilities provided by the Government, the College has leases and service agreements for student accommodation, classroom space, office equipment and other services and is committed to basic payments as follows:

	(thousands of dollars)
2001	$2,953
2002	2,452
2003	2,396
2004	2,386
2005	2,378
thereafter	15,716
	$28,281